

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Previously amended): A DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form, comprising a dense core element coated with a solid reservoir medium containing the DNA pharmaceutical agent, further comprising a stabilising agent that inhibits the degradative effects of free radicals.

2. (Cancelled):

3. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1 wherein the stabilising agent is one or both of a metal ion chelator and a free radical scavenger.

4. (Currently amended): The [A] DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 3 wherein the metal ion chelator is selected from the group consisting of: inositol hexaphosphate; tripolyphosphate; succinic and malic acid; ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA); tris (hydroxymethyl) amino methane (TRIS); Desferal; diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA); and ethylenediamindihydroxyphenylacetic acid (EDDHA).

5. (Previously Amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 3 wherein the free radical scavenger is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, methionine and glutathione.

6. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1 wherein the stabilising agent that inhibits the degradative effects of free radicals, is a member selected from the group consisting of: Phosphate buffered ethanol solution in combination with methionine or EDTA; and Tris buffered EDTA in combination with methionine or ethanol or a combination of methionine and ethanol.

7. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solid reservoir medium is an amorphous polyol.

8. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 7, wherein the polyol is a stabilizing polyol.

9. (Currently amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1 wherein the solid ~~biodegradable~~ reservoir medium is a sugar.

10. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 9 wherein the sugar is a member selected from the group consisting of lactose, glucose, sucrose, raffinose and trehalose.

11. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1 wherein the solid reservoir medium is in the form of a glass.

12. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 11, wherein the solid reservoir medium is in the form of a sugar glass.

13. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1, wherein the DNA pharmaceutical agent is supercoiled plasmid DNA.

14. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 13, wherein the supercoiled plasmid DNA is stabilized such that after storage at 37°C for 4 weeks greater than 50% of the DNA remains in its supercoiled form.

15. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 13, wherein the DNA is stabilized such that when released the ratio of monomer:dimer supercoiled form is within the range of 0.8:1.2.

16. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1, wherein the DNA pharmaceutical agent is a vaccine.

17. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solid reservoir medium further comprises a member selected from the group consisting of vaccine adjuvant, transfection facilitating agent, DNAase inhibitor and a crystal poisoner.

18. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 17, wherein the vaccine adjuvant is a member selected from the group consisting of CpG, a synthetic imidazoquinoline, tucerasol, a cytokine, MPL, QS21, QS7 and an oil in water emulsion.

19. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form, as claimed in claim 1 wherein the dense core element comprises microbeads of a mean particle diameter of between 0.5 to 10 μm .

20. (Previously amended): The DNA pharmaceutical agent dosage form as claimed in claim 19, wherein the microbeads are gold or tungsten microbeads.

Claims 21 - 24 (Withdrawn).